

Message Text

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53

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O DMLACK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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FOL TEL SENT ACTION GENEVA INFO SECSTATE FROM LISBONE DTD 23 FEB 1976

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 1145

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASA, CPRS, AO, US

SUBJ: RELEASE OF TWO AMCITS IN ANGOLA

REF: GENEVA 1245

1. ROGER A. CARLEY AND RICHARD K. FUSAKIO, AMERICAN PILOTS, ARRIVED LISBON FROM ANGOLA 1315 HOURS SUNDAY TAAG FLT 650 FEBRUARY 22, 1976. SCHEDULED TO DEPART LISBON VIA NEW YORK TO MIAMI, FLORIDA 1425 HOURS TW FLT 901 FEBRUARY 23, 1976.

2. PILOTS IN PROCESS OF FERRYING FORTY-FOUR PASSENGER F-227 AIRLINE PLANE LOADED WITH SPARE AIRPLANE PARTS AND FUEL TANKS FROM WINSTON SALEM, N.C., FOR THEIR EMPLOYER, WORLD AVIATION SERVICE, TO SOUTH WEST AFRICA FOR DELIVERY TO THE SOUTH WEST AFRICAN AIRLINES, WHEN BLOWN OFF COURSE DURING STORMY WEATHER AND FORCED TO LAND DUE TO LOW FUEL SUPPLY AT STO ANTONIO, ZAIRE. THE PLANE WAS IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDED BY SEVERAL HUNDRED HEAVILY ARMED MPLA SOLDIERS, WHO HAD JUST TAKEN THE FIELD OVER SEVERAL HOURS PREVIOUS. THE TWO PILOTS WERE TAKEN PRISONER AND FLOWN
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IN SEPARATE PLANES BY THE MPLA TO LUANDA, WHERE THEY WERE HELD

UNDER HOTEL ARREST UNTIL RELEASED THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 22, 1976.
WITH EXCEPTION OF DOLS 2000.00 LOSS, PILOTS INDICATED THEY WERE WELL
TREATED AND SUFFERED NO HARDSHIP. THE CONFISCATED PLANE WAS STILL
SITTING AT THE PLACE THEY LANDED UPON THEIR DEPARTURE.

3. PILOTS REPORT THAT THE AREA WHERE HELD WAS LOADED WITH NEW
RUSSIAN BUILT MILITARY EQUIPMENT, I.E., MIG-15 FIGHTER PLANES,
SEVERAL TANKS, HUNDREDS OF TRUCKS (LOADED WITH CUBAN SOLDIERS)
SEVERAL AMPHIBIOUS TYPE VEHICLES, A COUPLE OF AMERICAN BUILT
F-86'S OF THE KOREAN WAR VINTAGE AND THE AIRPORT WAS SURROUNDED WITH
NUMEROUS ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONS.
CARLUCCI UNQTE INGERSOLL

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